

Eligibility

Rhode Islanders of all ages who are Blind or Visually Impaired. This includes those individuals with best corrected visual acuity of 20/60 or worse in both eyes, or a field restriction of 20° or less.

Location

Services are provided STATEWIDE in your community - at home, schools and worksites.

A primary objective of Rhode Island Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired is to enable individuals of all ages, who are blind or visually impaired, to become independent and productive members of society.

VOCATIONAL

REHABILITATION PROGRAM :

A Federal/State Program created to assist people who are blind or visually impaired to obtain or maintain employment. Services provided include evaluation, orientation, mobility training, rehabilitation technology, guidance and counseling, career assessment, educational planning, vocational training, provision of adaptive equipment, job development, placement, and follow-up services.

BUSINESS

ENTERPRISES PROGRAM:

A Federal/State Program which establishes vending facilities in state, federal or private buildings for operation by persons who are legally blind. Qualified persons are trained and assisted in developing expertise in the successful management of a small business enterprise. A trade name, Coffee Plus, is currently used to help market the program and its products.

SOCIAL

SERVICES PROGRAM:

A comprehensive service program which focuses primarily on children and elderly.

•**Children's Case Management Services** include family casework, coordination with Early Intervention Programs, educational guidance, summer camp for youth, arrangement of ophthalmological and low vision evaluations, and information and referral to appropriate community programs.

•**Vision Screening Program** through Saving Sight RI which utilizes an MTI phtoscreening device to take pictures of the child's eye without the child having to read an eye chart. Screenings are done in day care centers, nursery schools, public schools and other community locations.

•**Independent Living for Older Blind Program** provides case management services, along with ancillary services for mobility, and orientation, rehabilitation teaching for skills training in Activities of Daily Living, management of low vision, provisions of adaptive equipment and information and referral to support groups and appropriate community services.

Most services are provided free of charge. Purchase of equipment and outside services are in accordance with agency economic need guidelines and availability of funding.

Services

- ◆ Information and Referral
- ◆ Functional Assessment
- ◆ Counseling
- ◆ Rehabilitation Teaching
- ◆ Orientation and Mobility
- ◆ Career Assessment
- ◆ Vocational Training
- ◆ Job Development and Placement
- ◆ Vending Facility Training
- ◆ Social Services
- ◆ Technical Assistance
- ◆ Adaptive Equipment Assessment
- ◆ Independent Living Skills Training
- ◆ Supported Employment
- ◆ Educational Consultation
- ◆ Public Awareness Training

Rhode Island Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Department of Human Services Non Discrimination notice

DHS does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, age, religion or sex in acceptance for or provision of services, employment or treatment in its educational and other programs and activities.

For further information about this policy, contact:
The Community Relations Liaison Officer at
(401) 462-2130 or TDD (hearing impaired)
at (401) 462-6239.

Office of Rehabilitation Services
Services for the Blind and
Visually Impaired
40 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02903

VOICE: (401) 222-2300
TDD: (401) 421-7016
FAX: (401) 222-1328

www.ors.ri.gov

Mission of ORS

To empower individuals with disabilities to choose, prepare for, obtain and maintain employment, economic self-sufficiency, independence and integration into society.

SERVICES FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED



CALL
222-2300
FOR INFORMATION

SBVI is a unit in the
Office of Rehabilitation Services
within the
Department of Human Services

Donald Carcieri, Governor